Consultation submissions

Please note that the personal details of submitters have been redacted to maintain privacy.

Submission number	Comments on the proposed road closure
1	I'm writing on behalf of the Albert Park Primary School (APPS) Council in relation to CoPP's proposal to Discontinue a section of Moubray Street in order to convert the Moubray Street 'Pop-up park' (PUP) into a permanent Moubray Street Community Park. The School Council and many school families have recently made submissions in support of a permanent Moubray Street Community Park, however this submission is specifically responding to the call for submissions as part of the process to discontinue this section of road pursuant to Section 223 of the Local Government Act.
	The School Council and the broader school community welcomes Council's proposal to discontinue this section of Moubray Street.
	Since it was formalised with an MOU between Council and APPS in 2016, the PUP has become a valuable additional play area for APPS students during school hours. In addition, the area is used out of school hours by the wider community. Crucially, when coupled with teacher or parental supervision (during or outside school hours respectively) the PUP's perimeter fence separating it from adjacent roads provides for a level of confidence in the safety of the space for younger children.
	The discontinuance of the section of road will allow for the transition from the PUP to a permanent (and fit for purpose) Moubray Street Park, allowing for continued exclusive use of the space by the school between the hours of 8:30-4pm Monday-Friday (as per the MOU).
	We note the considerable effort and expenditure (financial and in-kind) to-date on the planning and design of the space, and a change of course away from a discontinuance of the road would be extremely disappointing.
	APPS welcomes Council's efforts to engage with the school and wider community to-date. We encourage wide and appropriate use of this space and adjacent school grounds outside of school hours. For example, in April this year the Tobruk Sunday Commemorative Service was held in the PUP space, conveniently located just around the corner from Tobruk House. The discontinuance would only serve to provide ongoing certainty for these types of uses of the land into the future.
	We note that the space is often used in conjunction with the school grounds out of school hours. Use of the APPS school grounds are at the school's expense and risk. Just as Council encourages active and outdoor play through provision and maintenance of open space such as the proposed permanent Moubray Street Community Park, so too does the school through its policy of allowing use of the adjacent school grounds out of school hours.
	Should Council endorse the discontinuance of the road, we note the following consistent list of priorities for the use and development of the space from students and wider school community:

	 Ensure the area is made safe (flat surface, remove gravel etc); Ensure there is significant open space (e.g., lawn, synthetic grass, rubberised surface) allowing children to run around and play games/sport; Ensure there are points of interest for kids (activities, lines for games, etc); Any planting is native and encourages biodiversity; Any seating is on the perimeter; Enhanced tree canopy and natural shading is supported.
	In summary, we are seeking Council's support to discontinue the road and the establishment of a permanent Moubray Street Community Park that is a fit-for-purpose multi-functional space, allowing APPS students access to sorely needed play areas during school hours, as well as offering a significant asset for the whole community during other times. These needs were evident when our Grade 6 students presented their ideas to both CoPP Mayor Cr Marcus Pearl and Ward Councillor Cr Katherine Copsey at an onsite meeting earlier this year. These ideas have since been passed on to Officers at Port Phillip City Council responsible for the planning and design of the space.
	We look forward to Council's consideration of our submission. Should there be any submitters against the discontinuance that wish to be heard at a meeting (as per the section 223 process), then we would also like to make a verbal presentation in support of our submission.
2	I strongly support keeping this space closed off permanently from cars and retaining it as a park for community use and use by the local school.
3	I support the road closure and park upgrade.
4	Thank you. This park is a valuable asset to the community and good to see it being made permanent.
5	Please keep the area fenced so that it can remain for use by the school during play time week days. The school is the heart of the community and children who have space to grow and learn and play will be much happier. Inner city schools have less space than others and having this area will be appreciated so much.
6	I am a local Sth Melbourne resident and I fully support permanently closing Moubray St. The Primary school should have exclusive access to the space during school hours. And then the whole local community outside these times.
7	I support the permanent closure of Moubray Street to allow for a permanent park. I believe the current relationship with the Primary School is a positive one and should be continued with priority use for the school during school hours.
8	There are alternative options that would add more space to the school, look better and have less impact on amenity. Happy to discuss with someone.

9	I am against this permanent closure.
10	This is not a good idea. I am against this proposal. Please do not do this. The state government should provide more schools if there is demand. Closing the road is not the solution. It has always been a problem and should not proceed to become permanent. This should not be allowed. I oppose this permanent closure. Please do not close this street permanently. I am opposed to this proposal. The closure of this street has been problematic from the time it was closed. This situation should not become permanent.
11	One of the great things about the Moubray Street Community Park is that it provides a relatively safe haven for school children and also our grandchildren as cars cannot speed dangerously down Moubray St. We love walking our grandchildren down to Moubray St. where they can play in relative safety. In my opinion, the Community Park works brilliantly for the community and particularly the Albert Park Primary School which adjoins the park. On school days parents can safely drop off their children knowing that cars are unable to speed down the street as children arrive at the school due to the road being closed at the Community Park. The Community Park in Moubray St is one of the few safe havens that is free of speeding cars.
12	We fully support the discontinuance of Moubray St, Albert Park (between Withers St & Bridport Street West). The establishment of the Moubray Street Community Park is essential in providing additional playing area for the Albert Park Primary School during school hours during the week and is used by residents at other times. The closure of Moubray St in this area has not caused any disruption to traffic flow through the area (possibly a small increase in traffic flow in our street (Bridport Street West), but traffic flow on our street is still very low). There are ample alternative routes for us to use to move through the area. Congratulations on a well managed trial process in this instance.